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together with the mutilated remains of the preceding premolar. The teeth are too much worn to enable me to determine the original anatomical characters, but nevertheless are sufficiently perfect to indicate an animal probably allied to the suilline family. The specimen belongs to a genus and species distinct from any heretofore met with by me from the North American geological formations, and, so far as I can make the comparison, appears different from any obtained elsewhere. I propose at present to refer it to a species with the name of HYOPSODUS PAULUS, and in future will give a more detailed description of it accompanied with a drawing.

The length of the true molar series in the specimen is half an inch. The last molar is a little over two lines in its fore and aft diameter. The depth of the jaw below the second true molar is three and a half lines.

Oct. 11*th.*

The President, DR. RUSCHENBERGER, in the Chair.

Twenty-six members present.

The following papers were presented for publication:

"Observations on some fishes new to the American Fauna, found at Newport, R. I., by Samuel Powell." By Edward D. Cope.

"Note on Silphium laciniatum." By Thos. Meehan.

MR. THOMAS MEEHAN said he had noticed a singular habit in the common "Stink bug" of gardens, *Reduvius novenarius*, Say, which might lead to some important physiological discoveries by those more closely devoted to entomological studies. Wondering what made some abrasion on the bark of a *Pinus cembra* on his grounds, he was attracted by a female insect of this species near it; and noticed that on the thigh of the middle leg the usual gray color was of a polished black. Supposing that possibly the insect may have had something to do with the injury to the bark, through which the turpentine was oozing, he waited a few minutes to re-assure the insect—usually timid under observation—that there was no danger. It then went to work to take the turpentine with the heel of the tarsus of the fore leg, and place it on the thigh of the second leg. It took several dozen "heelsful," winding it round the gathering ball on the leg, as one would wind a ball of string. After it had collected together a ball of turpentine about the size of a pin's head, it gently wiped it off with the femora of the hind leg, and applied it to the anus, where it was very rapidly absorbed. It then walked very leisurely to the top of the nearest branch, when it flew away. This was in the end of September. He saw no more of these insects till a week afterwards, when he cut off a small branch on which was another female, and carried it to the pine tree, applying the branch to the stem so that the insect could walk on to it, without much suspicion of human agency in the matter. As soon as it got to the turpentine, it went through the same operation as the other one, taking two doses of it before it walked away; which it did leisurely, and with much apparent satisfaction.

Up to this time he had not been able to find a male, so as to ascertain if it also had any similar use for turpentine.

THADDEUS NORRIS, after making some observations on a project now on foot for stocking the Delaware river with the black bass of the Potomac (*Grystes salmoides*), brought originally from the Ohio, mentioned in the same connecnection an experiment about to be tried of introducing Salmon by artificial culture. He thought that the Delaware had many characteristics of rivers producing large salmon in Canada, while its summer temperature was scarcely higher; that it was unobstructed by impassable dams on some of its fine tributaries and on both of its principal branches to their sources. Mr. Norris also remarked that the experiment was of much importance in ascertaining if this valuable fish—the salmon—may not be gradually acclimated in rivers further south than those they now frequent.

Oct. 18*th.*

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the Chair.

Twenty-one members present.

Prof. Leidy directed attention to a collection of fossils, recently received for examination, through the Smithsonian Institution, from Rev. Thomas Condon, of Dalles City, Oregon. The fossils consist of remains of mammalia, obtained by Mr. Condon from the valley of Bridge Creek, a tributary of John Day's River, Oregon. They appear petrified in the same manner as the similar remains from the Mauvaises Terres of White River, Dakota, but generally are less well preserved.

The greater number and more striking specimens belong apparently to a species of *Oreodon*, larger than any previously discovered and equaling in size *Merycochœrus proprius*. Indeed, so far as we are familiar with the skull of both, the two are so nearly alike that one may be regarded as only a variety of the other, or at most both may be viewed as distinct species of the same genus. I am, however, disposed to view one as the offspring, by selection, of the other, and regard them as corresponding species of two genera which existed probably in different times or localities.

The species, which I propose to distinguish under the name of Oreodon superbus, is indicated by a much mutilated skull, together with mutilated crania, and portions of jaws with and without teeth, of half a dozen or more individuals. The specimens indicate a little variation in the size of the animal, but it appears to have been on the average about the same as *Merycochœrus proprius*.

The form and constitution of the cranium are the same as in *Oreodon Culbertsoni*, but large inflated ear capsules or tympanic bones exist as in *Oreodon major* and *O. bullatus*.

The face is intermediate in character to that of *Oreodon major* and *Merycochœrus proprius*. It is rather more abruptly narrowed in advance of the orbits than in the former, but not to the same degree as in the latter. The infra-orbital arches are proportionately of much greater depth than in *Oreodon major*, and the other species of the Mauvaises Terres of Dakota, but are not so deep as in *Merycochœrus proprius*. Thus in *Oreodon major* it measures 9 lines in depth, in *O. superbus* 18 lines, in *Merycochœrus proprius* 23 lines.

The orbits are comparatively small, as in all the family of the Oreodonts. The lachrymal fossa is proportionately shallower than in *O. Culbertsoni* and *O. major*, and in this respect is more like that of *O. gracilis*.

The infra-orbital foramen in *Oreodon superbus* holds an intermediate position to that of *Merycochœrus proprius* and that of the Mauvaises Terres Oreodons.

The jaws of *O. superbus* appear not quite so robust proportionately as in *Merycochœrus proprius*, and the bone of the lower jaw is of less thickness.

The teeth of *O. superbus* and *Merycochœrus proprius* agree in size and constitution, but the premolars and canines of the former appear more compressed laterally, or they are of less thickness from within outwardly, and are somewhat wider fore and aft.

I am prepared to admit that all the characters by which I have attempted to discriminate different species of *Oreodon* and *Merycochœrus* are not fixed, but I nevertheless view them as sufficient to eliminate animals which would be generally recognised as distinct.